



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant (s): **Keith P. Johnston, et al.**

Serial No.: **09/808,332**

Group Art Unit: **1615**

Filed: **March 14, 2001**

Examiner: **Unknown**

For: **PREPARATION OF DRUG PARTICLES USING EVAPORATION
PRECIPITATION INTO AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS**

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Angela R. Brooks

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE A

In response to the Official Action, paper 5, mailed on July 1, 2002, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

Amendments

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for preparing poorly water soluble drug particles comprising the steps of:
dissolving a drug in at least one organic solvent to form a drug/organic mixture;
spraying the drug/organic mixture via an atomizing device into an aqueous solution, wherein the drug/organic mixture is sprayed at or below the liquid level of the aqueous solution;
and
concurrently evaporating the organic solvent in the presence of the aqueous solution to form an aqueous dispersion of the drug particles.
27. (Amended) Poorly water soluble drug particles having an average particle diameter of from 50 nanometers to 20 microns, the drug particles being prepared by a process comprising the steps of:
dissolving the drug in at least one organic solvent to form a drug/organic mixture;

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